

1 _____ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____

(Primary Sponsor)

4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA COMMEMORATING ST. PATRICK'S DAY, CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF
6 MONTANANS OF IRISH HERITAGE, AND EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT THE CALM AND
7 COOPERATION THAT THE 1998 GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT HAS ENGENDERED IN IRELAND WILL
8 ENDURE.

10 WHEREAS, Irish immigrants contributed significantly to the formation of the cultural and societal
11 foundation of our nation; and

12 WHEREAS, 14 percent of Montanans are of Irish heritage, the highest percentage west of the
13 Mississippi River and the 9th highest percentage nationally, and Irish Montanans have risen to leadership roles
14 in many fields of endeavor; and

15 WHEREAS, Irish Americans remain proudly supportive of their ancestral homeland, and desire that
16 Ireland be economically prosperous and at peace, and

17 WHEREAS, the lyrics and music of the songs of Ireland convey the tragedy and joy and the sorrows
18 and glories of the Emerald Isle, and

19 WHEREAS, the American Irish State Legislators Caucus was recently established to foster and
20 strengthen the longstanding cordial bilateral relationship between the United States and Ireland, for the
21 continuing mutual benefit of both nations, and

22 WHEREAS, the 1998 Good Friday Agreement ushered in a new era of peace on the island of Ireland,
23 and the calm and cooperation the agreement has engendered are of the utmost importance for future peaceful
24 coexistence on the Emerald Isle, and

25 WHEREAS, annually, on St. Patrick's Day, Americans, regardless of their ancestral heritage, become
26 Irish for the day and jointly celebrate their love of Ireland.

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28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF

1 THE STATE OF MONTANA:

2 That the Montana Legislature commemorates St. Patrick's Day, celebrates the contributions of
3 Montanans of Irish heritage, and expresses the hope that the calm and cooperation that the 1998 Good Friday
4 Agreement has engendered in Ireland will endure.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Legislature desires to continue building the economic
6 relationship between Montana and Ireland.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the National
8 Co-Chairs of the American Irish State Legislators Caucus, to Senator Mark Daly, the Cathaoirleach of Seanad
9 Éireann (Chair of the Senate of Ireland), and to Deputy Seán Ó Fearghail, the Ceann Comhairle of Dáil Éireann
10 (Chair of the Assembly of Ireland).

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